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ANNALS, APR 95



1895.

DESCRIPTIVE LIST

OF THE

JAPANESE + PLUMS

OFFERED BY

HENRY LUTTS'

Niagara River Nurseries,

YOUNGSTOWN, N. Y.

THE MOST PROFITABLE TO GROW.

VIGOROUS, HARDY, PRODUCTIVE.

GOOD SHIPPER.

VERY ATTRACTIVE IN COLOR—QUALITY GOOD.

My trees are as good as the best—my customers say better.

ANNALS, APR 95

THE NIAGARA RIVER NURSERIES.

THESE Nurseries were established in 1872 to supply a local demand for strictly first-class Trees and Plants. The trade has gradually enlarged and extended itself, until now we ship annually thousands of trees to every State in the Union. This trade has been built up by honest and liberal dealings and personal attention to the business; ever holding in view the interests of our patrons, and being interested in fruit growing on a large scale, we are in a position to serve our customers in a liberal and just manner,

By Growing Fruit of All Kinds

For commercial purposes as well as nursery stock. We test the new varieties as soon as introduced, and find the Japanese Plums the most interesting and profitable fruits yet introduced. We have been telling you for the last four years of their value, and now such good authority as the *Rural New Yorker* says:

From The Rural New Yorker.

ABUNDANCE PLUM at the Rural Grounds (Aug. 4) is a sight to behold. The branches are wreaths of fruit, and they, as well as the tree itself, are held up by props and ropes. Some are beginning to color; all are of good size, and, although the old marks of the curculio sting are engraved upon most of them, no injury seems to have resulted. For twenty years, off and on, the *Rural New Yorker* has tried so-called curculio proof plums. We have never used insecticides or jarred the trees, and we have *never* before had a crop of plums. Plums are not raised in the vicinity simply because people are not willing to put themselves to the trouble of jarring. Now, here we have the Abundance loaded down with beautiful fruit, while not a precaution has been taken to destroy the curculio. Blessed be the Abundance! It is well named.

A BIG POINT: My trees are freshly dug, packed in the best manner, and shipped in proper season. Sure to grow.

READ WHAT IS SAID LATER, 1894: There is such a multitude of "superior" novelties which are really inferior, that when a really superior novelty is found, *The Rural New Yorker* delights in giving it all possible publicity, that its readers may be among the first to be benefited by the new introduction. That the Abundance proves to be about all claimed for it, seems a settled fact. It is to us a blessing and a revelation; a blessing that we may now enjoy plums of our own raising, and a revelation in that we have never before been able to raise plums because of the curculio. Our tree was not planted until the spring of 1890, and it has borne three crops. Last season the tree was so loaded that three props were used and the tree anchored so as to resist heavy winds. This young tree bore nearly three bushels, and the yield this season will probably be as much. Last year the plums began to color August 5th. This year they began to color August 1st. As stated last year, we grow about twenty-five varieties of plums—many of them said to be curculio proof—but the Abundance is the only variety that could hold its fruit to maturity.

From The American Gardening, Sept. 8, 1894.

JAPANESE PLUMS AGAIN.—The more I see of the Japanese plums the more I become convinced of the fact that no tree or small fruit of greater value has ever been introduced within my memory. With their sturdy habit of growth, their healthfulness and hardiness, their productiveness, and the beauty of their fruit, they will surely revolutionize plum-growing in America. With all the other "new cultures" we will also have a "new plum culture," and the newness will consist in the new varieties. Mr. Henry Lutts, of this county, has sent me a basket of Sweet Botan (abundance) plums. They are as handsome a fruit as anyone could imagine. In perfection of form and in high coloring they rival the crossbred Japanese plums of which we used to receive samples from their originator, Mr. Luther Burbank, in California, plums which I often declared were the most beautiful specimens ever brought to my notice. In quality the well-grown and well-ripened Sweet Botan will not be surpassed very easily. Being a cling or semi-cling may be a fault of these plums, but it seems to be their only one. I am unable to name another.

The list of good points in the Japanese plums are not yet exhausted. They are the best of keepers among plums. I do not know exactly how long a time the ripe specimens may be preserved in good eating order. The basket containing the plums has stood on my desk day after day. They have been freely sampled, but the specimens left, notwithstanding the warm, close atmosphere of the room, are yet as perfect as the day I first received them, and incline to dry and shrivel rather than to rot. Like the Bartlett pear, also, the specimens may be picked when quite green, and laid away to ripen. They will do this and be as beautiful and of as good quality as when allowed to ripen on the tree. This gives the grower a chance to market a portion of the crop in advance of the regular season, to relieve the (usually) overloaded trees of a portion of their fruit, and give to the specimens left on the very best opportunity to come to perfection, and keep until beyond their natural season. Who can help becoming enthusiastic over a fruit, when seeing so many good points and so few imperfections in it?

T. GRENER.

Don't fail to read the above—best authority in the United States.

From Bulletin No. 62, January, 1894, Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station, Ithaca, N. Y.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE JAPANESE PLUMS.—Unfortunately, the Kelsey was the first Japanese plum to become known in this country, and as it is hardy only upon the Pacific coast and south of Virginia, it became a general impression that the species is not adapted to cultivation in the north. The varieties which are now known to be hardy in the plum regions of New York and Connecticut are Burbank, Abundance, Willard, Ogon, Satsuma, Berger, Chabot and Yosebe, and most others give promise of hardiness. Dr. Dennis reports Burbank and Ogon to have borne at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, last season, after having experienced a temperature of twenty-six degrees below zero. The seasons of these plums varies considerably. The earliest to mature in central New York is the little Berger, which ripens the middle of July. The earliest of what may be called the market varieties, in this latitude, seems to be Willard, which colors sufficiently for market about the fifteenth of July in ordinary seasons, and which is fully ripe for eating a week later. Ogon follows, Abundance coming in about August 10th. As a class, the Japanese plums are long keepers. Even when they are fully colored and grown and are fit to eat, some varieties will keep nearly two weeks, and most of them will keep a week; and some, if not all the varieties, ripen up well if picked rather green, after the manner of a pear, although they may suffer in quality from such treatment. Willard, picked when beginning to color on the exposed side, I have kept nine days in good condition in a warm room, and with no attempt to preserve them; Abundance picked August 24, when well colored, began to decay September 2; Burbank, partly colored and picked August 24th, were placed in a tight box in a warm room, and on September 5th they were nearly all in perfect condition and had colored well, but were not even then fully ripe; a red plum, much like Berckmans, kept from September 18th to October 1st. J. H. Hale, of Connecticut, reports keeping Satsumas two weeks in his office in good condition, and they were fairly ripe when picked. Altogether, the Japanese plums constitute the most important type of fruit introduced into North America during the last quarter of a century.

L. H. BAILEY, Professor of Horticulture.

From The Practical Nurseryman.

We were favored with a basket of Abundance plums from Mr. Henry Lutts, Youngstown, N. Y. They were the handsomest we have seen. Some of the largest specimens measured $6\frac{1}{4}$ to $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference. They were fully ripe and excellent in flavor. Shipped August 13th, 1894, from Lewiston, N. Y., to Huntsville, Alabama, over eight hundred miles, and received in good condition, proves their carrying quality.

From J. H. Hale, of the World-Famous Hale Orchards.

JAPAN PLUMS are sure to be in great demand. A number of the Japan plums are perfectly hardy, and this fact, taken in connection with their almost entire freedom from black knot, and the tough skin, which in a measure checks the ravages of the curculio, the vigorous growth of the trees, and their habit of early and profuse bearing, makes them the most valuable class of fruit introduced in many years.

Please recollect I have had twenty years experience in plum growing. I have one hundred and fifty varieties in bearing, and know a good fruit when I see it.

From S. D. Willard, Ontario County, N. Y.

Am greatly delighted with its flavor and size, as well as its market qualities. The people will be much pleased with it for home use. Sells fully as well as other plums, if not better. Is a heavy bearer, profitable and desirable.

Read What Local Fruit Growers Say of Them Grown in Niagara County, N. Y.

J. W. BEDENCAP, manager of Hall & Ferguson's cold storage house, practical fruit-grower and custom-house officer, says: I have fruited three varieties of Japan plums for four years and find them all of great value. Ogon and Small Botan ripens July 20th. I have never seen a nicer sight on a tree than the Ogon plum when ripe. Abundance is a marvel of productiveness also, and good quality. Ripens here August 10th.

WILLARD HOPKINS: Handsome both in tree and fruit; quality good.

JAMES H. CHILDS, custom-house officer and practical fruit grower, says: The most valuable fruit for this locality I have ever grown. Their earliness and good shipping qualities should make them valuable. My four-year-old trees bore on an average two bushels. It sold well in Buffalo, netting me \$2.50 per tree.

F. S. HALL: I planted my first Abundance in the spring of 1892. This summer (1894) I sold from many of the trees \$2.00 worth of fruit.

Dr. GEO. P. EDDY: My Ogon plums were fit for market July 20th, although my trees were planted only in the spring of 1892, I sold \$2.00 worth of fruit from many of them.

Hon. L. P. GILLOTT: My trees came in bearing the second year after planting, and surprised me with the quantity of beautiful and delicious fruit.

A. J. EATON, ex-custom-house officer: My trees grew four feet last summer, and are the picture of thrift and vigor. Abundance and Burbank have borne freely with me this season. Trees planted thirty months ago are bending to the ground with large handsome fruit.

From Hartland, Niagara County, N. Y.

Mr. GRIFFIN: My two-year old Abundance trees bore a fine crop. We prize them highly for canning. They sell well in our market.

Mr. JOHN WALKER: I have tested the quality of the Japan plums. I like their flavor.

Mr. ISAAC ABER says: I have thoroughly examined the Japanese plums, both on the trees and as to quality, and pronounce them enormous bearers of large, showy fruit of good quality.

My fruit farm now covers over two hundred acres, on which are some of the finest orchards in New York State. With these vast interests I am obliged to keep ahead of the times and know all about varieties. May I help you in selecting a list for profitable orchard planting? Try me.

DESCRIPTION OF JAPANESE PLUMS.

WILLARD.—Medium in size; spherical in general outline; never pointed; color dark, clear red, with many minute yellow dots; flesh rather firm, yellow, sweet, and of fair quality; freestone. A strong, vigorous and hardy tree; productive, and the earliest market Japan Plum yet tested in the north. There are one or two varieties equally early, but none that average so large in size as this.

OGON.—Large, nearly round, with a deep suture skin of the brightest golden yellow, with a faint bloom; flesh firm and sweet, with a rich banana flavor. It is the most free of all plums, not a particle of flesh adhering to the pit, which is small. When canned, it is not equalled by the best apricot or plum. It is a splendid keeper, and can be shipped further than any plum I know of. Trees remarkably healthy; strong and stocky grower; prolific bearer; not subject to black knot or leave blight. Ripens here July 20th, six weeks earlier than Lombard. Succeeds north, south, east and west. This is a good plum to grow.

ABUNDANCE.—It is a well-established fact that the Abundance is proving hardy and productive north, south, east and west, and has more good qualities than has as yet become known to the public. Its propensity for early and abundant bearing induced the disseminator to name it rightly, Abundance. It is unlike any other plum. In growth it is so strong and handsome as to render it worthy of being planted as an ornamental tree. Few flowing trees or shrubs are neater or more attractive. When in bloom it is one mass of flowers; small trees fruit in the nursery row, bending the limbs with fruit until they sometimes break. We have had little one-year-old, but two feet high, white with bloom and set heavily with fine large plums. The fruit is large, showy and beautiful amber, turning to a bright carmine where exposed, and and shades down to a golden color where they touch each other; covered with a heavy bloom; flesh orange yellow, very high flavored, melting, rich and highly perfumed. The fruit of this plum will ripen and color nicely when picked two-thirds grown. It is a good keeper, and will certainly be a favorite shipping plum.

BURBANK.—Has proved of remarkable value. In general character it is very similar to the Abundance, but of deeper color, and ripens later in the season. The fruit is larger, and very uniform in size; hardy, strong grower, a very early bearer, deserving attention on the part of the fruit grower, and will be planted largely when known.

SATSUMA BLOOD.—A vigorous grower, with dark bark and lanceolated leaves; hardy and very productive; fruit large; skin dark purplish red with bluish bloom; quality good. Flesh is solid, clear, red color from skin to pit, which is small, little larger than a cherry stone.

I have a large stock of all kinds of Plums, including the Japans, and can sell as cheap as anyone. Send list of wants and let me price it. I will save you from twenty-five to fifty per cent. on plums, standard and dwarf pears, cherries and quinces.

JAPANESE PLUMS.

WE believe that all that is necessary to prove what is said of the Japanese Plums is to give them a trial, and when they are well known, they will become the most popular fruits ever introduced.

The following points of superiority over all other plums will be well to bear in mind when making up your list for orchard planting.

THE MOST VIGOROUS GROWER.

The foliage is very healthy, never dropping prematurely.

The fruit is set on the new wood as well as on fruit spurs on the old wood. This makes a tree capable of bearing as much at three years as the ordinary tree bears at six years old.

Very hardy, having fruited when the thermometer registered at twenty degrees below zero.

THEIR EARLINESS PLACES THEM ON THE MARKET WHEN FRUIT IS SCARCE AND WANTED.

Early bearing qualities—young trees not two feet high bearing forty plums.

For canning they are unequalled.

The best of shippers—will keep for days after being picked.

They can be picked quite green, and will ripen in the basket.

Retailers appreciate their keeping qualities, and will have them at double the price of European varieties.

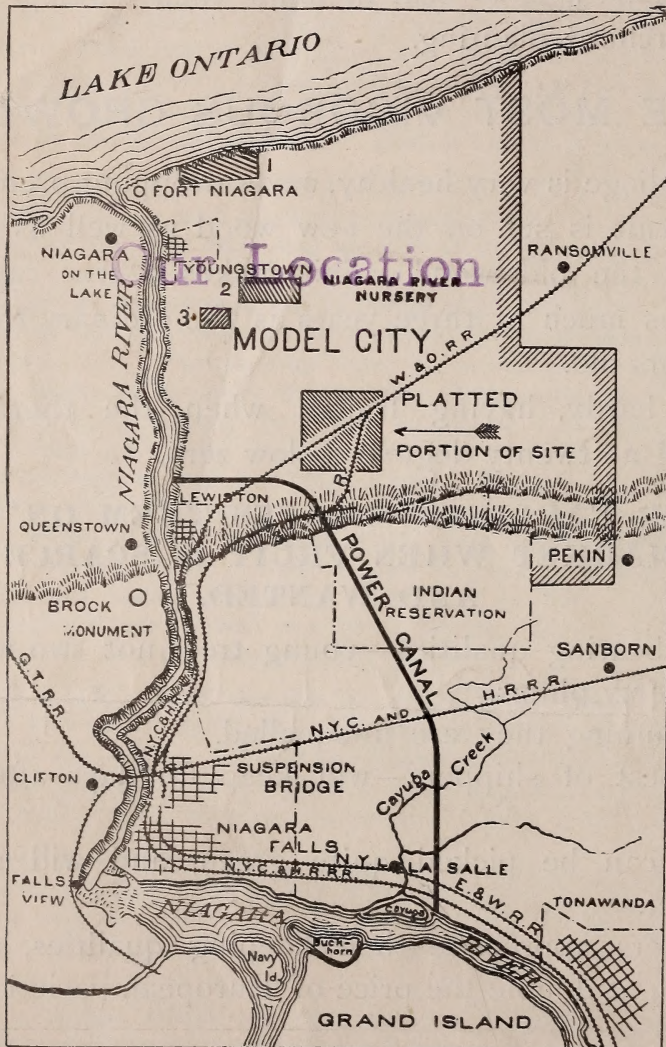
Which is the best to plant, Japan Plums, that bear full crops in two years, or European, such as German Prunes, Niagara, or varieties that don't come into bearing until six or eight years after planting? If you are after profits, figure a little.

EXPLANATION.

Block No. 1—Twenty-four acre peach orchard.

Block No. 2—Eighty-eight acre fruit farm, on which is planted four thousand pear trees, peaches, plums and grapes.

Block No. 3—Nursery and one hundred acre peach orchard.



Bartlett, Kieffer and Duchess Pears in surplus at surprising low rates. How many can you use? Send for prices.